

**ABSTRACT**

Systems and methods are described herein for remote management of local area network printing devices. The local area network printing devices can be located whether they are connected to the network or whether they are directly connected to a workstation computer. When the printing devices have been located, a local user can share printing device information with a third-party service provider located outside the local area network. The user may relinquish control of the diagnostic software to the third party, or the user may share simultaneous access to the diagnostic software with the third party. Storage is economized because the bulk of the management system software resides on an Internet server, and not on a workstation computer. The described implementation also provide for a more convenient fee system that can be controlled by the third party service provider for use of the printer information management system.

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